

Viking Saga

NORTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL

GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA

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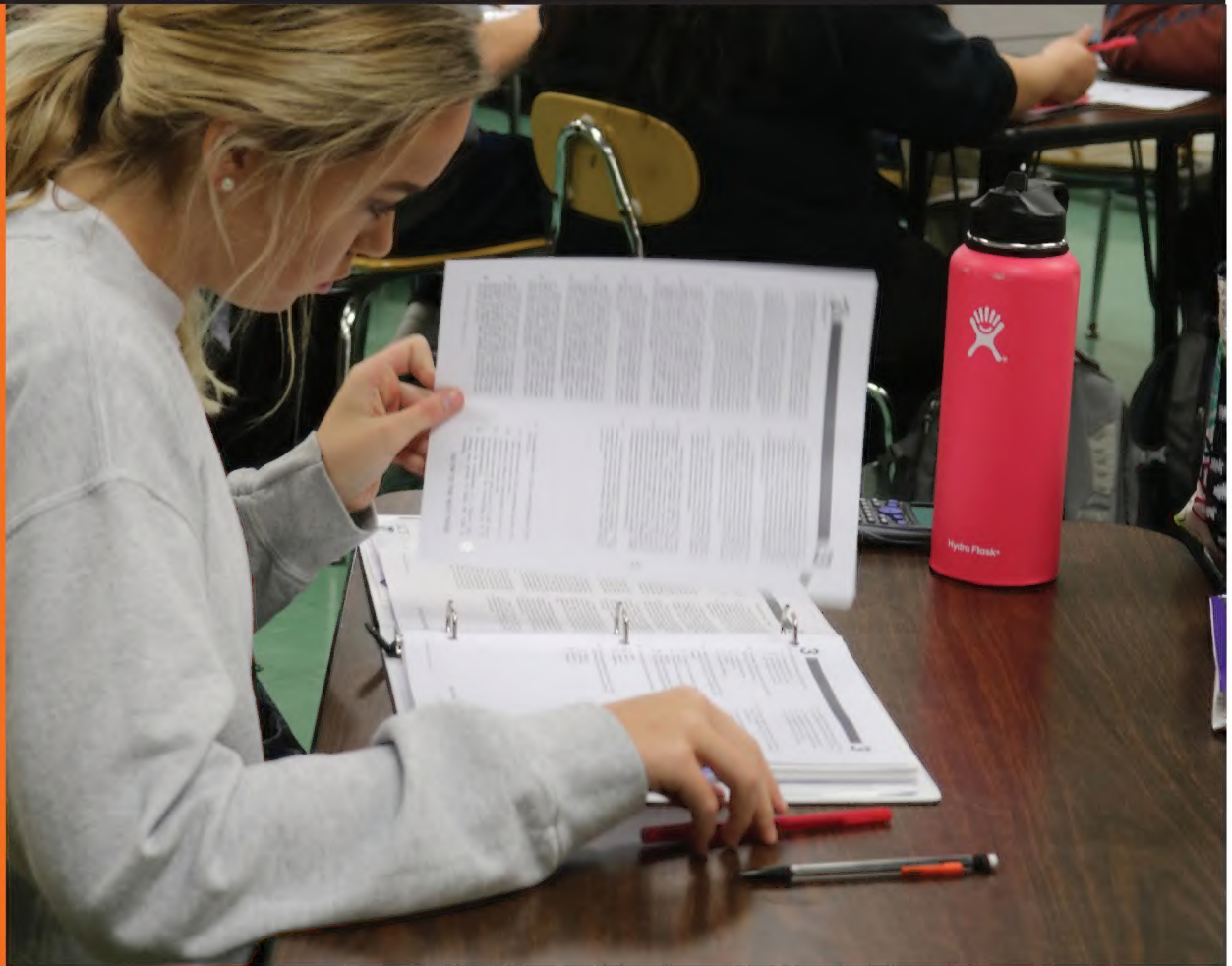
VOL. 57 ISSUE 3

ACT to change next September

By Emelia Richling

Starting September 2020, the ACT will provide many changes that will impact the way students can take or retake the test and many more benefits.

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It's Time to Give Back!

Fall is a good time to give to the community. Learn more about how to help.

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Working Students

Students not only spend time in school. Some of them also spend time on their jobs.

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ACT to change next year

BY EMELIA RICHLING

Following the announcement of the ACT testing policy changes, students are now able to benefit even more if they prepare for the test and understand the changes that will be implemented next September.

According to the ACT website, there are three changes that will be put into effect. All three changes are important for students to understand, but one of the most prominent changes for students is the ability to retake an individual section.

After taking the full ACT test, students can retake up to three individual ACT sections at a time. There is no limit on the number of retakes a student can take in order to improve their score. However, the retake must be done online instead of on the traditional paper and pencil test. In addition, the retake must be completed on one of the seven official ACT testing dates at the same time as other students who are taking the full ACT test. For every retake, there is a fee associated with it.

The ability to retake only a certain section of the test can provide students with peace of mind.

"If a student's scores are a little low in math or any other area, the students will have less anxiety knowing that they can take another math class or take advantage of online tutorials," said Jeanette Ramsey, director of teaching and learning for Northwest.

The test is also being revamped to include superscoring, an option that will be beneficial for students.

"Superscoring is the process by which colleges consider the highest subject scores across all the dates the student took the ACT," the official ACT website said.

Through all of the testing and retesting, a superscore will take the highest individual scores from each category (English, math, reading and science) to create the highest possible overall score.

Superscoring is beneficial for students because it allows them to submit their highest scores in order to improve their chances for college admissions and scholarships. However, not all colleges plan to accept superscores. For example, the Dean of Admissions at Georgetown University, Charles A. Deacon, stated in an interview with USA Today that the college will not accept a superscore.

In response, the ACT published a statement that included the benefit of superscoring for colleges. They

stated that it will provide colleges with a more accurate indicator of how students are going to perform when they enter higher education.

Throughout a two-year study, the ACT found that superscores are actually better predictors of success because it demonstrates that students can improve on sections through perseverance and hard work. In one section, they may not do their best on it, so the superscore prevents one poor score from affecting the entire ACT test.

The final change that the ACT will put into effect is the ability to take the test online or on paper. Typically, the results for paper tests are delivered within 2-8 weeks, but the online test results could be returned within two days.

In order to prepare for the new ACT, students need to understand the new test as well as how to study for it.

"Be intentional about experiencing the test and paying attention to the areas you are struggling with," Ramsey said. "Study your score sheet and understand where your deficits are."

In order to prepare students, Northwest pays for the On To College course, providing students with the chance to build a foundation for their ACT preparation.

"The school email is their login, and the first part of their email is their password," said Lori Merritt, a counselor at Northwest.

Through understanding the test changes and knowing how to prepare for it, Northwest students can ace the ACT.



Photo by Emily Krupicka

Students in Dave Olson's ACT Prep Class are taking a quiz to prepare for the upcoming national ACT test.

VIKING SAGA

Northwest High School
2710 N. North Rd.
Grand Island, NE 68803
308.385.6394
www.ginorthwest.org

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Mackenzie Vogt

STAFF
Emily Krupicka
Gabe Lorenzo
Haili Luevano
Hailie Melton
Emelia Richling
Trinity Sossong

ADVISER
Kirsten Gilliland

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VikingMedia



How to give back this holiday season

By: Emelia Richling



Photo Courtesy of Janet Rasmussen
Residents in St. Paul are preparing for the Thanksgiving dinner.

Every Thanksgiving for the past 14 years, the First Presbyterian Church has hosted a Thanksgiving dinner for the community. Despite the support they have received from the community over the years, there is still so much more that could be done.

Although the number of students who volunteer at the dinner has increased over the past few years, the number is still low.

“We had about 10 last year,” said Janet Rasmussen, a member of the planning committee and the volunteer coordinator.

In a study conducted by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics in 2016, the organization found that the lowest volunteer rates come from people whose ages range from 16 to 24. Due to extracurriculars, jobs and other activities, it is difficult for students to find the time to volunteer.

“I’m the FCCLA president, a member of Student Council and am on the newspaper staff. I also have a job at Perkins. With work on the weekends, it is hard to find volunteer opportunities that fit in my schedule,” said Mackenzie Vogt, a senior.

By maintaining a part-time job and

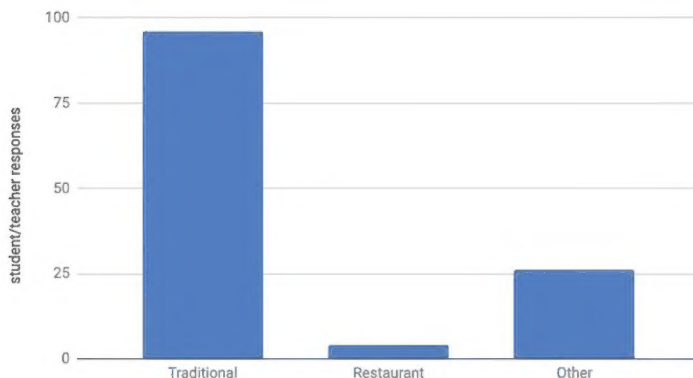
building a strong list of extracurricular activities, many students feel as if they will be prepared for reality, but volunteering is another activity that provides students with valuable knowledge such as leadership abilities, important connections and industry-related skills.

Despite all of the reasons to volunteer, it is difficult for students to find the time, and many are unaware of the various opportunities offered throughout the community. In order to solve these issues, Sherri Mudloff, the office manager for the Salvation Army, offered some advice for students and described some volunteer opportunities for students.

Mudloff explained that the Salvation Army has very flexible hours. For example, on Saturday, students can wrap gifts anywhere from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Other jobs with flexible schedules include the Thanksgiving dinner, bell-ringing and gift-wrapping. Throughout the year, there are food drive and pantry jobs that need to be filled as well.

During this holiday season, try to volunteer just once, and you will be making yourself and the community just a little bit better.

What does your Thanksgiving dinner look like?



One key part of Thanksgiving is the meal laid out for family and friends. On October 26, a Google Form was sent out to students and teachers asking them the contents of their Thanksgiving dinner. Out of 125 respondents, 77 percent said they have a traditional Thanksgiving dinner, 3 percent of respondents said that they go out to places such as Popeyes, Pizza Hut and Elba Community Hall.

One respondent said, “Olive Garden. I will always go to Olive Garden.”

Twenty percent of people said they eat other foods, such as noodles, chicken, vegetarian foods, duck, enchiladas, and macaroni and cheese.

“We usually have other things like cherry cheesecake, baked or green beans, and either homemade rice crispy treats or cookies,” one reply stated. “The rest depends on requests usually made by the picky eaters in the family.”

“My family is vegans or vegetarians so we have a lot of plant based foods...” another response said. “My grandma is known for making scotcheroos.”

A wide variety of foods and desserts fill people’s platters this year, no doubt offering unique tastes and making this year’s Thanksgiving definitely one to look forward to.

Is it Turkey Day or time to give thanks?

By: Gabriel Lorenzo

As the years go by, we often celebrate for different reasons. From the first dinner that happened almost 400 years ago and its establishment as a national holiday 156 years ago, we now celebrate Thanksgiving. The United States doesn't take Thanksgiving as a monopoly. Some countries might have different names, instead of "Thanksgiving." In Germany, the holiday is called Erntedankfest. In Korea, the holiday is called Chuseok Day. Some countries also celebrate this holiday for different reasons, but, countries like Italy and Denmark don't recognize Thanksgiving as a holiday.

"In Italy, we don't have Thanksgiving. It's a date that a lot of people know about in school with English culture. We don't have that day on the calendar," said Giacomo Sarra, a foreign exchange student from Italy.

Most of us in the United States and in Puerto Rico celebrate the holiday on the last Thursday of November. Japan celebrates Thanksgiving on Nov. 23, including the Netherlands on the third Thursday of November and Norfolk Island (which is between Australia and New Zealand) on the last Wednesday of November. Other countries in Vietnam, Korea, China, Grenada (a country in the Caribbean), Canada and Germany celebrate the holiday as early as September or October.

"We can choose a day, it doesn't have to be exactly on that day," said Gera Baltasar Salinas, a foreign exchange student from Spain.

There are many reasons why countries celebrate this holiday.

"We just meet and we think about our friends and family," Salinas said.

In South Korea, spending time with family, giving thanks to their ancestors and celebrating the autumn harvest is a part of their culture. Vietnam has more of a touching experience. For them, it is held as a way for parents to make amends with their children who may have felt neglected, give thanks and spend time with family.

When it comes to Thanksgiving, there are traditions that shape the way we celebrate the holiday. In the United States, Canada and Japan, parades are part of their tradition. Germany, Norfolk Island and Liberia celebrate the fall harvest. The Netherlands found inspiration in Leiden's annual commemoration of the breaking of the Spanish siege of 1574. Grenada is thankful for the 1983 U.S. military invasion to restore order after the death of communist leader Maurice Bishop. Japan celebrates the hard work done for labor.

Why forget the best part of Thanksgiving? It's the food, right? Food plays a big role in other holidays and our lifestyle. In the United States and Canada, they have traditional food, which is mashed potatoes, gravy, turkey, pumpkin pie and corn.

"I guess it depends on the person to cook. Usually, a big thing we value for our guests. It's not turkey and there's usually migas, which is like a typical dish in Spain," said Salinas.

In the Netherlands, there are only cookies and coffee. In China, moon cake, a baked concoction filled with sesame seeds, ground lotus seeds and duck eggs are served. In Puerto Rico, a typical Thanksgiving dish is likely to include roast pork, rice and beans, slow-roasted pavocho, blood sausage and a cinnamon coconut custard for dessert. In Germany, turkeys, fattened up chickens, hens, castrated roosters and geese are favored for the feast. Traditional Korean Thanksgiving food includes rice balls flavored with sesame seeds and pine needles and Korean "pancakes" (which are basically deep-fried meat and vegetables), all washed down with a bit of rice liquor. In Liberia, roast chicken and mashed cassava are served.

As we look at all of the traditions in every country, there could be differences in all aspects. From culture to food, there are differences. That should not become a barrier to the purpose of this holiday. The word "thanksgiving" can be broken down into two words, which are thanks and giving. Giving thanks means to "express gratitude or show appreciation to." For this Thanksgiving, think about what you are thankful for. What else can you be thankful for? Think about your family, your friends, your church or even the people that surround you. Don't let Thanksgiving be the only day to give thanks. Be thankful every day for being able to open your eyes, breathe and to be alive.



Pictured above is a traditional Thanksgiving dish that is enjoyed in Spain.

PowderTuff volleyball draws a crowd

By Emily Krupicka

With a close game, Team Bobby, the teacher team, took the title of first place at the PowderTuff volleyball tournament on Tuesday, November 12.

Before the game approached, students and teachers began occupying the gym seats--excitement could be heard from the stands as the players wearing brightly colored and decorated team jerseys filled the courts. With nine competing teams, rivalry was high; however, all teams appeared to keep themselves collected throughout the event.

In the last set, Team Bobby faced against the Disco Divas in a riveting play. Although Team Bobby ended up claiming first, the Disco Divas called a close game and ended in second place.

The PowderTuff tournament has become a tradition at Northwest High School with many students embracing the spirit of the game. Northwest has hosted The PowderTuff tournament for the past couple years, and while many people participate, they don't know the history behind the tournament.

"It's a men's volleyball tournament that we host to raise money for yearbook," said Ashten Psota, a senior and head coordinator for the PowderTuff tournament.

Psota adds that she hopes the PowderTuff tournament will continue for many more years. "It's a fun and exciting event that brings the school together."



PowderTuff players compete against each other for the win.



No Shave November Fundraiser!

By Hailie Melton

No Shave November is upon us! What comes with this is a new fundraiser that entails some of the male teachers as participants. Students will vote who gets their beard dyed and shaved into a funky style! This fundraiser was thought of by Mr. Studley when a yearbook student asked him for fundraiser ideas. She says that they hope to at least raise \$500. She also thinks the teacher to get shaved will be one of the Harrington brothers and she thanks all the participants to be willing enough to let them near their beards.

Mr. (Bryce) Harrington says he hopes he isn't the one to get shaved, and he hopes it's the other Mr. Harrington. On the topic of why some male teachers refused to participate, Mr. (Bryce) Harrington said "It's just a personal choice. Beards aren't for everyone. Some people don't

want to just grow it out for a month, and some of them are nervous about what the students will shave their hair into." Mr. Fernau argues that he thinks they just can't grow facial hair, but he also said that if he wanted to see anyone shaved, it would have to be Mr. (Bryce) Harrington because his beard is the best out of all the male staff at Northwest.

"I think it is a fun fundraiser. I was surprised how many male teachers are willing to participate, and I think that the winner will either be Scott Gibson or Bryce Harrington. They both have very thick and full beards so I could see the students wanting to have them shaved," said Mrs. Harders.

School isn't the only shift students work

By Haili Luevano

High school is often a time in one's life when wanting something requires payment from one's own pocket. A driver's license costs an average of \$30, while the actual car and money for gas is much more. Paying for things like phone bills, clothing, new shoes and insurance becomes a major concern. The most common solution that students find is getting a job.

"[Having a job] looks great on scholarships, applications and resumes," said Lori Merritt, the Northwest guidance counselor. "It lets colleges and any future jobs that you may apply for know that you can multitask and handle responsibility."

In a poll asking if students worked, out of 130 respondents, 87 said yes and 43 said no. In another poll asking if students liked their job, 69 said yes, 17 said no and five said both. This was out of 91 responses.

Of course, still being in high school limits job opportunities for teenagers, whether it be due to availability or age. Two job categories that are most accessible to students are fast food and retail.

Junior Max Rookstool works as an employee at KFC. "I make people's orders and have to give them out," Rookstool said.

He mostly works drive through due to his outgoing personality, but he does manage front counter from time to time. He recommends using a phone to help out.

"That's how I balance it," Rookstool said. "I just write down my hours on my calendar and check it."

This sentiment is shared by Junior Damon Bennett who works at Hyvee, but he also expands on the benefits.

"[Having a job] makes it easier to buy stuff and do stuff myself without having to ask my parents permission," Bennett said. "It also means you can have money; having money means you can buy gas; having gas means you can drive to school."

One resource that the school provides in order to help students manage their job is work release. Out of this year's senior class of 179 students, 70 currently have this as a part of their schedules.

"Students have to be at Northwest for at least four periods," Merritt said. "They have to have a reason to have off periods."

Other requirements include working at least 10 hours a week and having a job on the very first day of school.

The number one concern is getting students to graduate, which is also why work release is only available to seniors. The majority of juniors may be able to drive and have a job, but they simply don't have enough credits to fit work release into their schedule.

"[Underclassmen] should not get work release because they need to get the full high school experience," said Jerianna Hostetler, a senior.

As an employee at Famous Footwear, she doesn't feel like work release affects her too much since doing homework outside of school isn't a chore to her, but notes that it's "nice for the seniors that need it."

Knowing how to manage your time is a big part of having a job. Being proactive by setting a limit to how late you can work and using advisement to get homework done can be a major help.

"Keep a schedule that doesn't stress you out too much, and don't make work an excuse to not do things," Bennett advises. "Plus, if you're working a late job that pushes 10-11 o'clock, that can cut into time for sleep, which is even more important."

Students also tend to sacrifice being part of a club or school activity.

"I don't like seeing kids giving up extracurriculars in order to work...because you're going to be working the rest of your life," Merritt said.

She urges every student to start out small with a job, working only one night a week or on the weekends only before adding more hours.

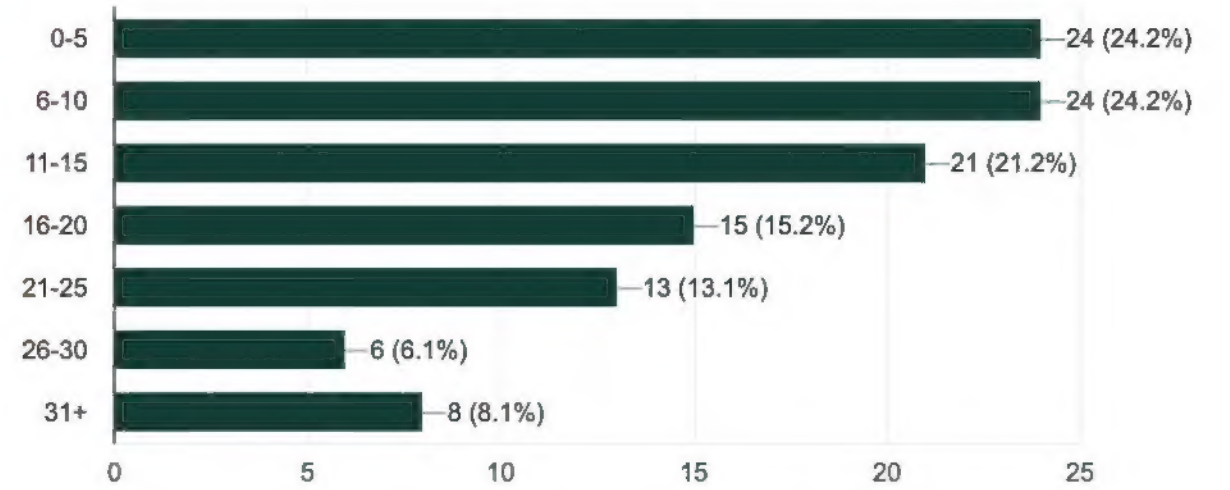
Having a job can present great opportunities and offers teenagers more freedom, but knowing how to balance it with school and homework is a difficult task. Acquiring a job that's flexible, knowing how to manage your time and using the resources available to you are all things that will help in the long run.



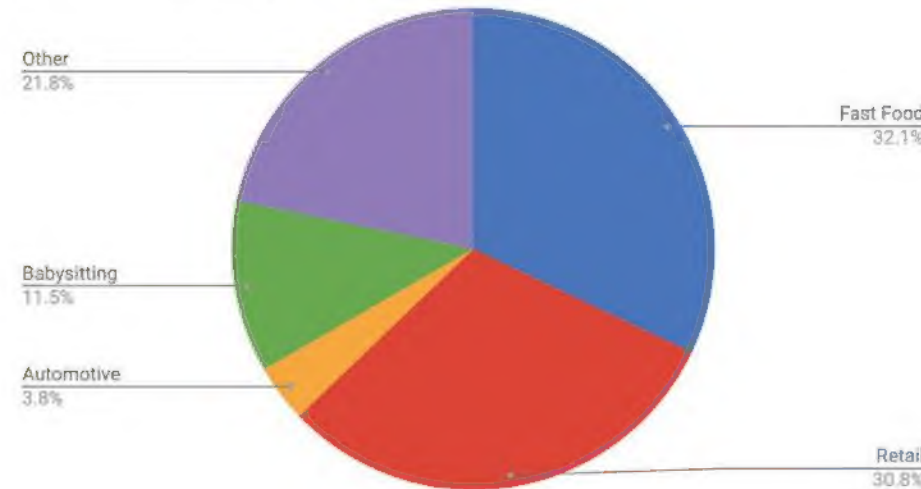
Photo courtesy of Dominic Luevano. Alumni Beto Rodriguez (left) and Senior Dominic Luevano (right) work the front counter at Raising Cane's.

How many hours a week do you average?

99 responses



What category of job do you work?



*out of 71 students polled

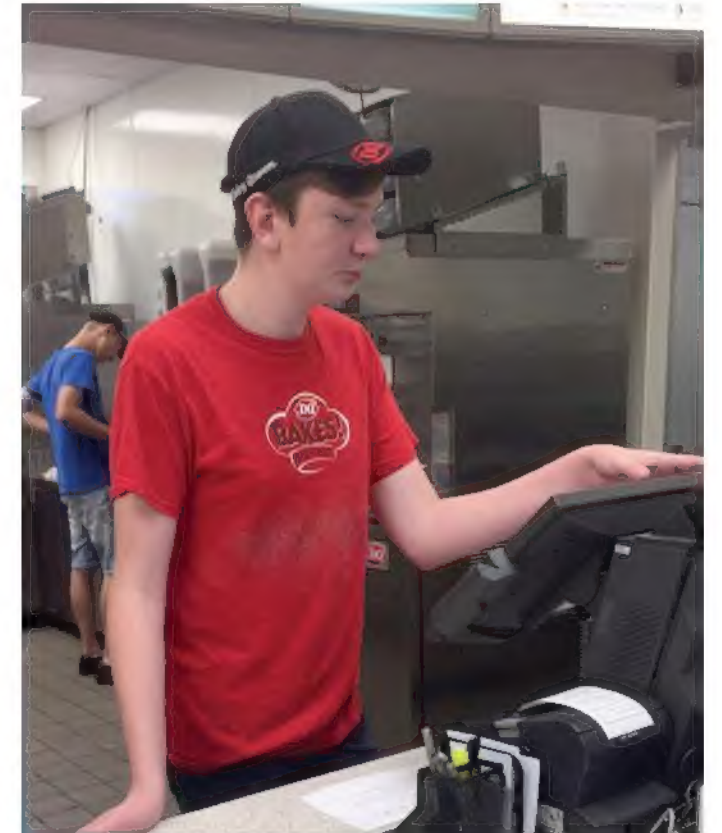


Photo courtesy of Samantha Reimers. Junior Max Rookstool works the front cashier at Dairy Queen.

Medicare isn't the government's job

By Emelia Richling



For many people, a world in which all trips to the doctor, optometrist and dentist are free of charge is a world they want to live in, and there are many Democratic candidates that are attempting to make it a reality.

Although the candidates present different versions of Medicare for All, the core of the plan remains the same. As the name suggests, Medicare for All would provide a government-run health care program in which any trip to the doctor is

free for all Americans.

Although this reality sounds amazing, the theory of Medicare for All is “impossible” to conceive because it is too difficult to support financially, according to the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget. In addition, several states have attempted to pass the legislation, but they have been met with little success. Even if these problems are resolved, it simply isn't the government's responsibility to provide people with health insurance.

After examining the financial ramifications of Medicare for All, it becomes apparent that the word ‘free’ isn't necessarily the right term to describe the plan. In order to procure the money necessary to provide American citizens with health insurance, the government would need to raise \$30 trillion. The most popular method proposed by Democrats is to tax citizens, meaning that people are indirectly paying for healthcare when their taxes are raised.

Politicians haven't been very vocal about their methods of paying for Medicare for All, so the previously-mentioned committee did the math for them. They found that, if the top two income classes were taxed, it would require a 100 percent tax increase in order to raise the \$30 trillion over a period of 10 years. Overall, they found it virtually “impossible” to raise the money through taxes.

Money is definitely a problem, and several states found this to be a problem after implementing Medicare for All without success.

Kenneth Thorpe, a health policy researcher who works as a legislative consultant for Vermont, said that the state spent two years working on estimating costs and attempting to find a solution. In order to raise the amount necessary, a 20 percent increase in payroll and income taxes would have to occur, forcing businesses to shut down and putting people out of work.

In the end, Thorpe found that a free health care system is a bad idea. Although expanded coverage sounds great, the immense increase in taxes, the devastating job loss, and the regrettable end of small businesses are repercussions that aren't worth it.

Even if the financial problems could be solved, free health care isn't the government's obligation. By making Medicare for All the government's responsibility, we are sacrificing our freedom of social mobility. The health care plan violates our rights as American citizens because it redistributes wealth by taking from those who work hard to earn their money and giving to those who have less money.

According to Thomas Kaplan, a political reporter for the New York Times, Elizabeth Warren is planning to heavily tax the upper class and businesses in order to raise the money, leaving the middle class alone. Her plan “represents an extraordinary embrace of the tax system to redistribute wealth,” a sad reality that will ruin American motivation for prosperity.

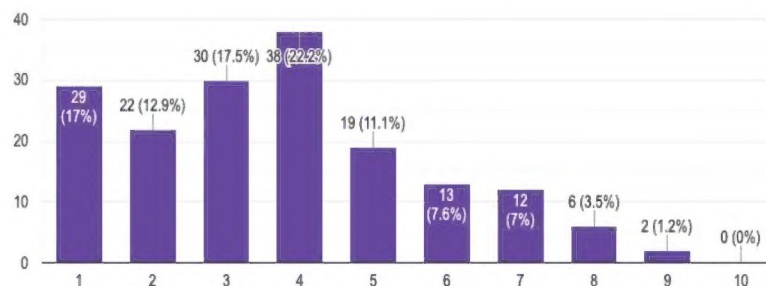
What makes the American system so compelling is that it doesn't matter what condition a citizen was born into. Anyone can climb to the top because every student has access to free education.

However, taking away the chance to climb the social ladder through heavy taxes ruins the incentive to work harder to earn money or start a business. Our culture has been founded on our ideas to create an ideal life, but the government will take that away if they are given the chance to implement Medicare for All.

Although free health care sounds ideal, it simply isn't because of the drastic effects it will have on society. A culture in which I can work hard and earn success is a culture I don't want to sacrifice.

How would you rate the school food?

171 responses



Northwest Lunch Poll

By Trinity Sossong

A Google Form was sent out to all students on Tuesday, October 22, asking what they thought of the cafeteria food. They were given a chance to rate it on a scale ranging one to ten, one being as awful as it gets, and ten being the absolute best. The poll was then cut off on Monday, November 4. The results are shown off to the right (out of 171 respondents).

Health insurance: The government needs to step in

By: Trinity Sossong



You're sitting up in your room, working hard on homework that must be finished by tonight. You can hear your parents arguing downstairs over bills for the second time in the span of three days. Your parents don't know that you know about all the problems they're going through, struggling to pay every bill with the little amount of money they get. You look over at your sister, who lays on her bed, sick. She keeps getting worse and worse, but you don't have enough money to get her medicine or

even take her to the doctor to see what's wrong. Your parents are aware of the problem, but they can hardly pay all of the bills, let alone adding more medical bills to the problem.

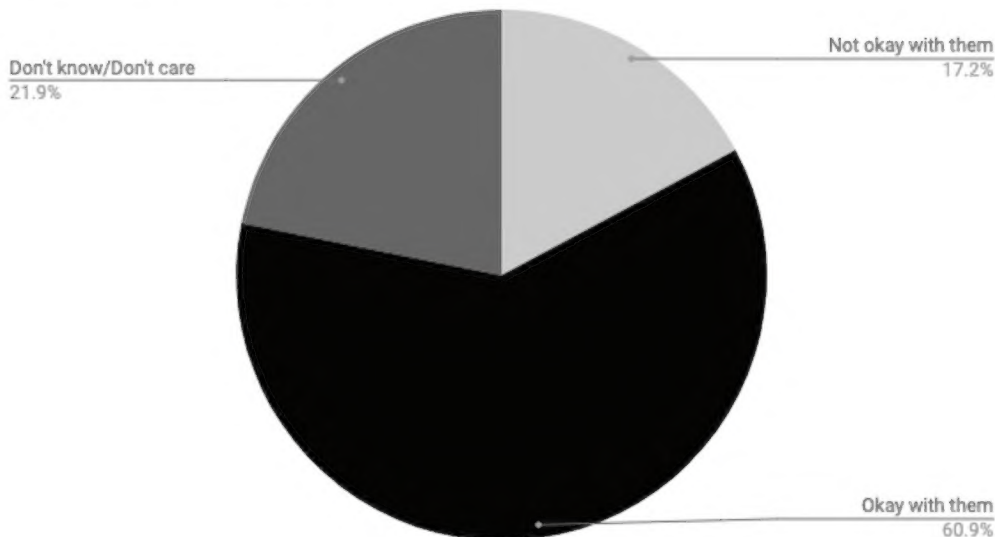
Most people work minimum wage, which is too much to be given state aid, but too little to be able to afford your needs. Along with this, the cost of "living," or just being able to afford your basic needs, keeps going up faster than the minimum wage pay. Having said this, the way taxes are on the rise is making it harder and harder for people to afford the basic needs that everyone should have availability to, such as medical visits and medicine. Without insurance, the expenses of medical-related things are higher than with insurance, due to the fact that you're paying out-of-pocket cash without help. If we were to make Medicare available to every man, woman and child, that would triple the amount of taxes taken out of

every person's paycheck, making it harder than it already is (Stephanie Booth 1).

In 2018, \$1.1 trillion went towards healthcare (Tax Policy Center). The average American spends 70 percentage of their income on healthcare and medical-related things (Catie Watson & Ryan Cockerham). In the government, the U.S. Treasury controls all of the tax money that is taken out of every paycheck. Currently, the cost to have health insurance is about \$450+ a month for one person, depending on what state you live in (Kaiser Family Foundation Health Insurance Marketplace).

If the government could step in a little more and regulate the money better, even it out, and control the amount of money that health insurances charge, it wouldn't be as expensive as it is now. It would be more affordable for the amount of money people are being paid on average. With this, if the government was to raise the minimum wage pay, the cost of living wouldn't be such a big problem like it is currently. More people would be able to afford their basic needs and have a little extra cash. By doing this, people would be able to afford more things and be able to afford health insurance. The more people that can afford their basic needs, the more money the government would get and the less money they'd have to take out for taxes. Not only this, but making more money would make it easier for the government to raise the minimum wage pay. By doing all of these steps, more people would have availability to important things required to live, such as healthcare.

What do you think about the ACT changes?



By: Hailie Melton

A Holly Movie for a Jolly Season

By Haili Luevano



Photo courtesy of Sony Pictures and Aardman Animations

With Christmas drawing ever closer, holiday films are springing to the forefront of the public's interest.

Arthur Christmas, a drama and fantasy animation, is one such movie. Aired on November 23, 2011 with a run time of one hour and 37 minutes, it focuses on Arthur Claus, Malcom and Margaret Claus' youngest son, and his mission to deliver a present to a young girl.

Aboard the S-1, a high-tech sled-esque hovercraft, Malcom, also known as Father Christmas rather than Santa, is portrayed as an aging, oblivious, yet good-natured, character who has lost his touch.

Instead, the S-1 is commanded by his oldest son, Steve Claus. Steve is a very serious character, viewing Christmas as a mission more than a holiday. He oversees the production, wrapping and distribution of presents, a labor done by the many elves aboard the ship.

One such elf is Bryony Shelfey, a Wrapping Division Grade 3 elf who is obsessed with perfecting the art of wrapping gifts. She's a quirky, loveable character that I found myself easily humored by.

As the main protagonist, Arthur plays an enjoyable role as well. His physique is very much tall, long-limbed and ungraceful - the direct opposite of his older brother. Alongside his friendly nature and almost exaggerated Christmas spirit, this makes him somewhat of an outcast amongst his

peers.

The main conflict in the movie is that a single gift is failed to be delivered. Steve makes the harsh yet logical decision to forgo delivering the gift, while Arthur is upset and decides to deliver the gift himself.

With the help of Grandsanta, the former Father Christmas and Malcom's father, they embark on a mission to deliver the gift. Aboard an old sleigh and guided by seven young, untrained reindeer, Arthur, Grandsanta and Bryony face many obstacles along the way.

Thematically, this movie is very good. The plot is clear, and the underlying message of Christmas' true meaning is portrayed to the viewer in a lighthearted fashion. It goes through real-life struggles, like passing down a responsibility, caring about people rather than the actual process of making them happy and accepting defeat in a bittersweet way.

That last example relates to Steve and those who can relate to his character. Seeing his younger brother's true love for Christmas, he decides to give the title of Father Christmas to Arthur instead.

This film is hardly well known, mostly due to the harsh cinematic status quo when it comes to Christmas movies. Other movies such as the Grinch, Home Alone, The Polar Express, Jack Frost and such, often take the focus. It's hard for new films to compete with such classics, let alone an animation that was released all the way back in 2011.

Nevertheless, Arthur Christmas is a fun family movie to watch. The characters are well rounded and develop throughout the film. Not having the stereotypical 'bad guy' that you often see in a lot of Christmas movies sends a clearer message to the viewers, which I liked.

If you're looking for a new holiday movie to pass the time, I definitely recommend Arthur Christmas.

Exploring fall fashion

By Emily Krupicka

The runways have spoken, and the latest fall trends are here. In recent years, '90s inspired fall fashion has made a resurgence through the growing popularity of scrunchies, mom jeans and gingham print; as of 2019, these styles are more popular than ever.

As the weather grows colder in the fall and winter months, layering different articles of clothing will become more common: flannels, sweaters and oversized jackets are classic layering staples that have remained popular throughout the years.

In regards to clothing colors, dark and muted tones are traditionally associated with the fall season. However, many fashion bloggers predict that lighter neutral colors like beige and oatmeal browns will make a revival in 2019. Additionally, orchid purple, as seen in the recent Tom Ford fashion show, is set to be the newest millennial color craze.

Furthermore, mixing patterns to create a juxtaposition look has become a recent trend. Pairing contrasting designs can now be seen as a modern aesthetic that many teens and young adults strive to emulate.

Like the colors on the leaves, fashion is constantly changing with the seasons. While certain trends are popular during the fall season, fashion itself has no limits; it allows one to boldly express their individuality without constraints.



Sophomores Lisa Fruehling, Bennett Rowe and Rachel Ost dieck stand candidly for a photo.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

By Mackenzie Vogt

EMMA SMIDT

What middle school did you attend?

"One-R.x"

What extracurriculars are you involved in?

"Mixed martial arts: JiuJitsu and working at Country House Residence."

What advice would you give your freshman self?

"Study harder, and stay more focused."

Fun Fact:

"I'm thinking about going to Nebraska Wesleyan for college"



ANDREW (AJ) WARNER

What middle school did you attend?

"Cedar Hollow."

What extracurriculars are you involved in?

"Cross country, track and FCCLA"

What advice would you give your freshman self?

"To work hard, no matter what I do, and always give my best effort."

Fun Fact:

"I like to run."



GRACEY RICHARDSON

What middle school did you attend?

"Trinity Lutheran."

What extracurriculars are you involved in?

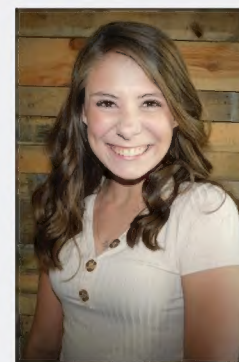
"I'm involved in FFA, FCCLA and National Honor Society."

What advice would you give your freshman self?

"To work hard and try to be more outgoing."

Fun Fact:

"I'm allergic to fructose."



In the news this week...

By Emily Krupicka

- Fresh Thyme, the Grand Island grocery store, announced that they will be closing their doors for good on November 16. Their announcement was abrupt and left many shoppers shocked.
- A substitute teacher in Texas was fired after a video of her assaulting a high school sophomore was posted online. The teacher was arrested and charged with aggravated assault shortly after the incident occurred.
- Record low temperatures are expected to be broken as an arctic blast plunges through the midwest.
- Impeachment investigations against President Donald Trump continue with new testimonies. The first public hearing regarding the impeachment process was held last Wednesday and discussed new information regarding the process.
- Nikki Haley, a former US ambassador to the UN, caught national attention after accusing her top aids of wanting to undermine the president and speaking out against Trump's impeachment.
- Former President Jimmy Carter has been hospitalized to undergo a surgical procedure.
- The Supreme Court discussed arguments regarding Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) this past Tuesday. The final decision will impact over 700,000 undocumented immigrants who arrived in America as children.
- President Evo Morales of Bolivia has resigned. According to CNN, Morales stated that he was stepping down "for the good of the country." However, many speculate that his resignation is a result of election fraud accusations.
- At least 6 people have been injured at Saugus High School in California after a student openly fired.